

Application Serial No.: 09/825,470
Amendment and Response to January 7, 2005 Non-Final Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for managing risk related to a legal action involving a person, the method comprising:

receiving, into a computer memory, digital information ~~into the computer storage~~ identifying a person's status as at least one of: a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court in a pending legal action;

receiving, into the computer memory, digital information ~~into the computer storage~~ relating to details of the legal action;

structuring, with using a computer processor operatively attached to the computer memory, the information-received information relating to details of the legal action according to predetermined criteria;

generating, using the computer processor, a scaled numeric value or a scaled alphanumeric value indicative of an amount of risk associated with the legal action ~~with a computer processor operatively attached to the computer storage, wherein the scaled numeric value or scaled alphanumeric value is based upon at least a portion of the structured information related to a legal action and the gathered data; and~~

generating a report comprising the scaled numeric or alphanumeric value and at least the portion of the structured information upon which the scaled numeric or alphanumeric number value is based.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~additionally further~~ comprising ~~the step of~~

generating a suggested action responsive to the scaled numeric value or a scaled alphanumeric value.

3. (Cancelled)

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4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the suggested action is ~~additionally responsive to the~~ received information ~~received~~ related to details of the legal action.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the suggested action is directed towards reducing a risk related to a legal action.

7. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the suggested action comprises commencing a litigation.

8. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the suggested action comprises entering arbitration.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the suggested action comprises settling a legal action.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the received information ~~received~~ ~~related to details of the legal action~~ comprises a venue for a the legal action.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the received information ~~received~~ is gathered electronically.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~additionally~~ further comprising ~~the step of aggregating~~ scaled numerical or alphanumerical values relating to the

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person and assessing an aggregate level of risk related to multiple legal actions to which the person is a party.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, ~~additionally further~~ comprising ~~the step of~~ calculating an average scaled numeric value or a scaled alphanumeric value associated with the person.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the legal action comprises a class action suit.

16. (Currently amended) A computerized system for managing risk associated with a legal action, the system comprising:

a computer server accessible with by a network access device via a communications network; and

executable software stored on the server and ~~executable on demand~~, the ~~software when executed~~ operative with the server to cause the system to:

receive information identifying a person as at least one of: a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court;

receive information relating to details of the legal action;

structure the information received relating to details of the legal action according to predetermined criteria;

generate a scaled numeric or alphanumeric value indicative of an amount of risk associated with the legal action ~~with a computer processor operatively attached to the computer storage~~; and

generate a report comprising the scaled numeric or alphanumeric value and ~~the~~ at least a portion of the structured information upon which the scaled numeric or alphanumeric ~~number value~~ is based.

17. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the information is received via an electronic feed.

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18. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the network access device is a personal computer.

19. (Original) The computerized system of claim 16 wherein the network access device is a wireless handheld device.

20. (Currently amended) Computer executable program code residing on a computer-readable medium, the program code comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive information identifying a person as at least one of: a party to a legal action and an amicus curiae of the court;

receive information relating to details of the legal action;

structure the information received relating to details of the legal action according to predetermined criteria;

generate using a computer processor, a scaled numeric or alphanumeric value indicative of an amount of risk associated with the legal action ~~with a computer processor operatively attached to the computer storage~~; and

generate a report comprising the scaled numeric or alphanumeric value and at least a portion of the structured information upon which the scaled numeric or alphanumeric ~~number-value~~ is based.

21-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein a person involved in a legal action comprises at least one of a legal person or natural person, or a combination of both.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 24, wherein a legal person additionally further comprises a governmental entity.

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26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the suggested action comprises appearing as an amicus curiae of the court in a litigation.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the risk comprises legal, regulatory, financial and reputational exposure.